

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1594

**Introduced by Committee on Veterans Affairs (Parra (Chair),
Cohn, Kehoe, Matthews, Mullin, Nakano, Salinas, and Wiggins)**

February 21, 2003

An act to add Section 11139.4 to the Government Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1594, as introduced, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Discrimination: veterans.

Existing law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, or physical or mental disability under any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state.

This bill would specify that the provision of housing for homeless veterans, as defined, is authorized by the state, and shall not be considered discrimination, notwithstanding any provision of state law or of local ordinances.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 11139.4 is added to the Government
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 11139.4. (a) It is the policy of this state and the purpose of this
- 4 section to facilitate and support the development and operation of

1 housing for homeless veterans who have a service-related
2 disability that renders them unable to share housing with the
3 general homeless population.

4 (b) The provision of housing for homeless veterans described
5 in subdivision (a) is hereby authorized and shall not be considered
6 unlawful discrimination, notwithstanding any other provision of
7 law, including, but not limited to, Sections 51, 51.2, and 51.10 of
8 the Civil Code, Sections 11135, 12920, and 12955, Chapter 11.5
9 (commencing with Section 50800) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the
10 Health and Safety Code, and local housing discrimination
11 ordinances.

12 (c) This section shall occupy the field of regulation of housing
13 for homeless veterans described in subdivision (a) by any local
14 public entity, including, but not limited to, a city, county, and city
15 and county.

16 (d) For purposes of this section, “housing for homeless
17 veterans” means emergency, transitional, or permanent housing
18 tied to supportive services that assist homeless veterans described
19 in subdivision (a) in stabilizing their lives and developing the skills
20 and resources they need to make a successful transition to
21 independent, self-sufficient lives.

